

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 00608 021524Z

47

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

DRC-01 /161 W

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R 021447Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5245

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, JO,IS

SUBJECT: OIL EXPLORATION ON WEST BANK

1. DURING PAST TWO WEEKS EAST JERUSALEM ARABIC LANGUAGE DAILIES AL-ANBA AND AL QUDDS HAVE PUBLISHED ARTICLES ABOUT OIL EXPLORATION ON WEST BANK BY ISRAELI OIL COMPANY, LAPIDOT BM. ON APRIL 23 AL-ANBA REPORTED THAT LAPIDOT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH GROUP OF CALIFORNIA BUSINESSMEN, WILL SOON START DRILLING NEAR RAMALLAH AND IN JUDEAN DESERT EAST OF BETHLEHEM.

2. ACCORDING TO AL-ANBA, DON PAULY CO. OF US DRILLED ON RAMALLAH SITE (ON ROAD BETWEEN RAMALLAH AND BIR ZEIT) IN 1958 TO DEPTH OF 3,170 METERS WOTHOUT FINDING OIL. LAPIDOT NOW REPORTEDLY PLANS TO DRILL WIDER SHAFT IN AREA TO DEPTH OF 4,200 METERS. IN JUDEAN DESERT COMPANY HOPES TO FIND OIL AT DEPTH OF 2000 METERS.

3. CONGEN HAS VERIFIED NEWSPAPER REPORTS WITH LAPIDOT THROUGH  
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PAGE 02 JERUSA 00608 021524Z

WEST JERUSALEM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. COMPANY DECLINED TO GIVE

FURTHER DETAILS OR INDICATION WHEN DRILLING WOULD BEGIN.

4. COMMENT: WE FIND IT INTERESTING THAT PRESIDENT OF WEST JERUSALEM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, A FOUNDER OF ORIGINAL ISRAEL OIL COMPANY (NOW PART OF LAPIDOT), KNEW NOTHING OF PLANNED OIL EXPLORATION UNTIL CONTACTED BY CONGEN. WE ALSO HAVE SEEN NO REPORTS OF PROJECT IN JERUSALEM POST OR OTHER ISRAELI PRESS. FURTHER COMPLICATION FOR SETTLEMENT THAT ANY ISRAELI OIL STRIKE IN OCCUPIED WEST BANK WOULD PRESENT IS OBVIOUS.  
KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPLORATION, PETROLEUM, EXPLORATORY DRILLING, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 MAY 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974JERUSA00608  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740105-0733  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** OIL EXPLORATION ON WEST BANK  
**TAGS:** ENRG, JO, IS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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